



OPASTCO

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November 12, 2003

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

***Ex Parte* Notice**

**Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Attached is a letter from the Independent Telephone and Telecommunications Alliance (ITTA), the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA), the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies (OPASTCO), the United States Telecom Association (USTA), and the Western Alliance to the members of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service. The letter expresses the five associations' strong and unanimous opposition to a primary line limitation on universal service support for high-cost carriers serving rural and insular areas.

In accordance with FCC rules, this letter is being filed electronically in the above-captioned docket as a written *Ex Parte* presentation.

Sincerely,

Stuart Polikoff
Director of Government Relations
OPASTCO

Attachment